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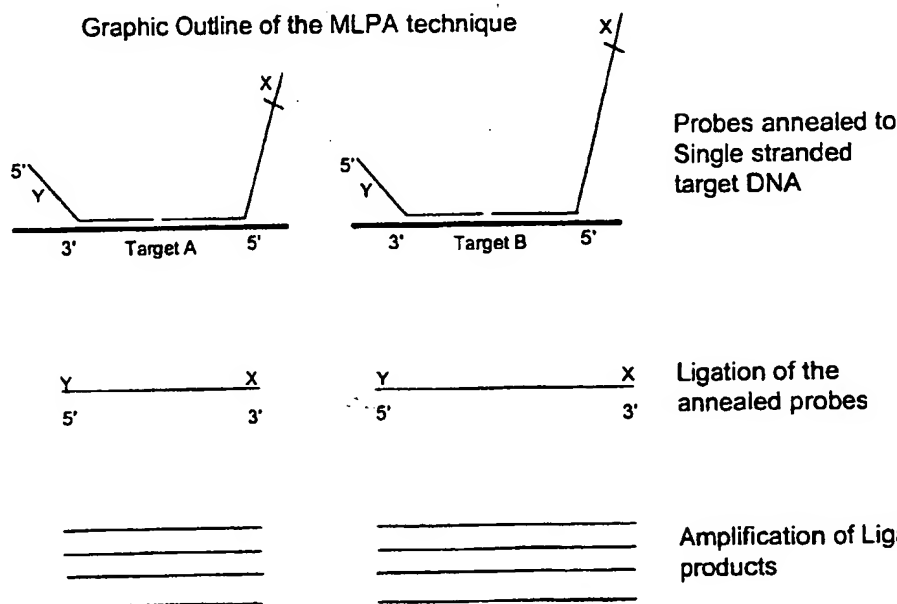
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **MULTIPLEX LIGATABLE PROBE AMPLIFICATION**

Graphic Outline of the MLPA technique



(57) Abstract: Described is an improved multiplex ligation-dependent amplification method for detecting the presence and quantification of at least one specific single stranded target nucleic acid sequence in a sample using a plurality of probe sets of at least two probes, each of which includes a target specific region and a non-complementary region comprising a primer binding site. The probes belonging to the same set are ligated together when hybridised to the target nucleic acid sequence and amplified by a suitable primer set. By using a femtomolar amount of the probes a large number of different probe sets can be used to simultaneously detect and quantify a corresponding large number of target sequences with high specificity.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PC1/EP 01/01739

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, MEDLINE, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96 15271 A (ABBOTT LAB) 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23)	35-40
Y	the whole document	1-34
X	WO 97 45559 A (BELGRADER PHILLIP ; CORNELL RES FOUNDATION INC (US)) 4 December 1997 (1997-12-04)	35-40
Y	cited in the application the whole document	1-34
X	WO 98 04746 A (SINAI SCHOOL MEDICINE) 5 February 1998 (1998-02-05)	35-40
Y	cited in the application the whole document	1-34
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WIEDMANN M ET AL: "LIGASE CHAIN REACTION (LCR) - OVERVIEW AND APPLICATIONS" PCR METHODS & APPLICATIONS, COLD SPRING HARBOR LABORATORY PRESS, US, vol. 4, no. 4, 1994, pages 551-564, XP002915011 ISSN: 1054-9803 the whole document	1-34
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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